

59  
20 APR 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: E. H. Knoche

SUBJECT : Reply to Questions by Mr. David W. Belin

REFERENCE : Mr. Belin's Letter to You, dated 15 April 1975

Our answers to the questions posed in reference are as follows and are keyed to the numbering of Mr. Belin's questions.

1. Numerous and varied files were reviewed to determine whether any information was available that might be responsive to Question 1. Included in the review were the personal papers of Mr. Dulles covering the period after his departure from the Agency and while he was a member of the Warren Commission, the Oswald 201 files (58 volumes), MONGOOSE papers, and files of the early 1960's dealing with meetings of the Special Group and the Special Group (CI). As far as we can tell from all of the materials at our disposition, no one discussed with the Warren Commission any alleged plan to assassinate Castro. There is also no evidence that anyone known to our records made a decision not to tell the Warren Commission anything about this topic or any other matter.

2. We have no evidence in our materials indicating Castro's knowledge or the possession of documentation of alleged assassination plans directed against him.

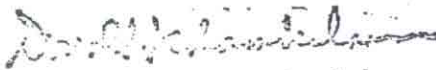
3. We are able to be affirmatively responsive to this question. Daniel Harker filed a report from Havana of an informal interview given to him at a Brazilian Embassy reception on Saturday, 7 September 1963. This was not a public speech. The Harker item appeared in The Washington Star (which played up the Goldwater political aspects) and the Times Picayune of New Orleans (which emphasized the physical threat to U.S. leadership) (Tab 1). We have not checked the Dallas newspapers. The New York Times published a UPI item entirely different in emphasis from the AP item, omitting any reference to Castro's warning to U.S. leadership.

And the Washington Post did a summary which also omitted any reference to the threatening aspects of Castro's interview (Tab 2). There are attached a number of statements made by Castro and other Cuban leaders prior to 22 November 1963. These were provided to us by FBIS after that Office and OCI completed a thorough review of relevant files (Tab 3).

4. Our records contain no direct information that any foreign government or foreign group was considering possible assassination of an American leader.

IT SHOULD BE noted that this item of raw reporting was received after the Kennedy assassination. We have no indication thus far in the file as to whether any action was taken on the item with the Warren Commission. 5

5. We have no indication in our records that there was any communication to President Johnson regarding the matter dealt with by this question. 14

  
Donald F. Chamberlain  
Inspector General

Attachments  
As Stated